

Harrietsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22nd February 2023 at 7.30pm in
The Scouts Hut

Cllr Powell welcomed all present to the meeting.

Public discussion

There was no public discussion.

1 Present

Cllr E Powell, Cllr T Griffiths, Cllr F Stanley, Cllr C Roots, Cllr S Luck, Cllr S Brown, RFO/Amenity Manager Mr M Cuerden and the Clerk Mrs A Broadhurst
2 Members of Public

2 Apologies for absence

Cllrs T & J Sams, Cllr G Dean, Cllr R Dayes, Community Warden Martin Sherwood

3 Minutes of the last meeting

Parish Council Meeting 25th January 2023 - The minutes were proposed as accurate by Cllr Roots, seconded by Cllr Luck; with 5 in favour and 1 abstention.

4 Disclosures and confidential items

Changes to the Register of Interests

There were no changes.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations.

Requests for Dispensation

No requests were submitted.

5 Planning

5.1 The outstanding planning applications were noted.

5.2 The approved applications were noted.

5.3 Other Planning Matters

- Pilgrims Retreat Planning Committee Meeting: Cllr Powell gave an update on a meeting recently held with Rob Jarman (MBC), ahead of the Planning Committee meeting on the 23rd February.
- Cllr Powell reported that the Local Plan Review is ongoing.

6. Environmental

6.1 Other Environmental Matters

New Burial Ground: The Clerk reported that CDS Group has completed a preliminary risk assessment which highlights that the Parish Council need a T2 assessment of the new burial ground site. They have now been instructed to carry this out and the work is scheduled for the 28th February at a cost of £5,945 (+vat).

This will include well & borehole registration investigation, watercourse, spring & drain mapping, geological & hydrogeological assessments, intrusive trial pits, detailed soil logging and assessment of groundwater/perched water encountered on site. CDS have also highlighted that, depending on what the investigation results show, the Parish Council will also need to possibly think about including a full heritage statement, Design & Access statement, Highways Statement as well as getting Archaeological pre-app advice as part of the planning application for the site. They have offered to hold a meeting with the Parish Council in due course if needed. If the Environment Agency request borehole-monitoring data, this will be an additional cost.

7. Finances

7.1 Income and Expenditure spreadsheets: The finance sheets were proposed as accurate by Cllr Roots, seconded by Cllr Stanley; with all in favour.

8. Highways

It was noted that a report had been circulated to all present.

Cllr Stanley raised concerns regarding the pedestrian refugee crossing points along the A20, as they are very dangerous in the dark. He suggested that a reflective band be painted around the brick edging.

No update was available relating to the A20 average speed camera project.

The Clerk offered to contact KCC on both of these items.

ACTION: Clerk

9. King's Coronation (incorporating the Big Lunch)

Cllr Powell read out an update from Cllr Dean, who was unable to attend the meeting. Raffle prizes are required and should be passed to Cllr Dean. The RFO confirmed that the toilets have now been paid for and he would reimburse Cllr T Sams, when the paperwork is received (£285.60).

10. Christmas Lights on the Green

Cllr Roots reported that the Clerk has spoken with Gala Lights and, if the Parish Council wishes to have a permanent electrical feed on the village green, it would need to come from the south side of the A20, resulting in highways works across the Ashford Road, which would prove to be very expensive. Cllr Roots would like to investigate this further but asked for the item to be removed from the agenda for now.

11. Parish Council Meeting Venue

The Clerk reported that the Brownies had been approached regarding them moving into the Ambrose Hall so that the Parish Council could move back into the Booth Hall for meetings. As the Brownies currently get the Booth Hall free of charge, it was proposed by Cllr Griffiths to cover the cost of the Ambrose Hall hire from 7pm-10pm. This was seconded by Cllr Luck, with all in favour. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council would be able to move back to the Booth Hall for the March meeting.

12. Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on the 26th April. The Weald of Kent Rotary Club had contacted the Clerk to ask whether they would be able to be the speaker for the meeting, as they would like to find members from Harrietsham. After brief discussion, it was agreed that they would be a suitable speaker for the evening. It was also noted that the owner of White Sharks Vineyard would like to attend and Cllr Luck will ask them to make contact with the Clerk.

ACTION: Clerk & Cllr Luck

It was agreed that the APM will be held in the Booth Hall at 8pm (following a shorter Parish Council meeting, commencing at 7pm), with light refreshments afterwards. The Clerk was asked to produce the booklet as usual.

ACTION: Clerk

13. Review of Standing Orders

It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths to approve the adoption of the amended Standing Orders. This was seconded by Cllr Brown, with 4 in favour and 2 against.

14. Renewal of Annual Subscription to Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)

It was proposed by Cllr Powell to renew the annual subscription to CPRE, at a cost of £60. This was seconded by Cllr Roots, with all in favour.

15. Village Hall - Asbestos Survey

The Clerk gave a brief report on the need for an asbestos survey to be completed at the village hall, at a cost of around £500. It was proposed by Cllr Griffiths to arrange the survey, this was seconded by Cllr Stanley; with all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

16. Future Events

Friends of St John's AGM - Friday 31st March (7pm in the Church)

Annual Village Litter Pick - 1st April

HIB Quiz - 24th April (7pm - Village Hall)

Annual Parish Meeting - 26th April (8pm - Booth Hall)

King's Coronation Big Lunch - Sunday 7th May (Glebe Field)

Coffee Morning - every Friday in the Booth Hall (10am - midday)

17. Items for Future Consideration

Parish Council's Climate Change Plan - Cllr T Sams (March Agenda)

18. Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Booth Hall

With no further matters to discuss the main meeting was closed at 8.24pm.